2006-07. These are made available at Integrated Counselling and Testing Centres, Antenatal Clinics, Blood Banks etc., for testing of HIV free of cost.

Disruption of OPD services due to strikes

1251. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of average number of patients visit to OPDs and emergencies in the Central Government hospitals, hospital-wise;

(b) the details of hospital services remaining disrupted due to agitation by doctors, nurses and staff during the period since 1998-99 till 30th June, 2006, indicating number of days of each disruption and steps taken to end it, at each instance, year-wise; and

(c) the steps contemplated, if any, by Government to ensure that the rights of the sick citizen to receive medical attention in Government hospitals without disruption is protected in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The average number of patients who visit OPDs and Emergency in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and Safdarjung are as follows:—

Dr. R.M.L. Hospital	
OPD	Emergency
3700-3850	450-500
Safdarjung Hospital	
OPD	Emergency
6300	800
LHMC & SK HOSPITAL	
1824	
KALAWATI SARAN	
1260	

(b) and (c) No substantial disruption of medical services were reported in Central Govt. Hospitals in Delhi as there is a contingency plan available in the wake of strike. The OPD services are not hampered severely during strike period as Senior Doctors and Doctors from CGHS, ESI and Railways Hospitals were deployed in Central Govt. Hospitals to man the OPDs. During May, 1998, Nurses were on strike for 12 days and in July, 98 Group 'C' & 'D' staff were on strike for 8 days. Nurses strike was called off after the Nursing Allowance was enhanced to Rs. 1600 from Rs. 150.00 p.m. Hospital Patient Care Allowance (HPCA) was enhanced to Rs. 700 & 695 p.m. for Group 'C' & 'D' staff to settle their grievances.

Apart from the above, Health worker Unions resorted to token demonstrations on a few occasions but there was no disruption of medical services.

In May, 2006, the resident doctors/medical students were on strike against proposed increase in reservation.

Separate department for treatment of aged people

†1252. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the number of aged people is increasing rapidly in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to open a separate department in hospitals for the treatment of aged persons;

(d) if so, the number of hospitals at present where this facility is already available; and

(e) whether Government would consider about any strategy to facilitate the treatment of the aged person and pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Due to better

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.